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UNCLAS MANAMA 001910

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARPI BERNES AND OES/ETC VILLEGAS
AMMAN FOR WHITTLESEY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [SENV](#) [TBIO](#) [BA](#)

SUBJECT: BAHRAIN: PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON ACCESS
TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND BENEFIT SHARING

REF: STATE 269625

Post contacted Engineer Zahwa Al Kuwari, Director of the Environment Assessment and Planning Directorate, General Commission for the Protection of Marine Resources, Environment, and Wildlife, to discuss questions posed in reftel. Kuwari said Bahrain is a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity and will be sending one expert to the Bangkok meeting in February 2005. Kuwari further stated that Bahrain has prepared documents pertaining to potential Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) rules and procedures but is waiting for budgetary approval to implement said rules and procedures. Kuwari was unwilling to share specific details regarding the GOB's plans at this time, but indicated the GOB is keen to learn from others at the convention early next year.
MONROE